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TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY 4860
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 077217

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, TH
SUBJECT: PREM VISIT: CONGRESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

1. IN RESPONSE TO OUTSTANDING INVITATION TO SENATOR MURKOWSKI TO CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER, WE HAVE JUST LEARNED THAT THE SENATOR WOULD LIKE TO HOST A SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE COFFEE ON THE HILL FROM 0915 TO 1000 IN HONOR OF THE PRIME MINISTER. THE COFFEE WOULD PROVIDE A PRESTIGIOUS SETTING FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO MEET A NUMBER OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN A LOW KEY, SOCIAL SETTING. THE INVITATION REFLECTS THE SENATOR'S REGARD FOR THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS COUNTRY AND, IN OUR VIEW, WOULD BE MORE USEFUL FOR THE PRIME MINISTER THAN A PRIVATE MEETING WITH ONE OR TWO SENATORS IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S HOTEL.

2. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY THE SFRC AND SENATOR HATFIELD STAFFS THAT SENATOR HATFIELD'S PREVIOUSLY ARRANGED PRIVATE CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE SET UP TO FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COFFEE. THE SENATOR WOULD ESCORT THE PRIME MINISTER TO HIS OFFICE, A FEW MINUTES WALK AWAY FROM THE SFRC COMMITTEE ROOM.

3. THE TIMING SHOULD FIT WELL INTO THE PRIME MINISTER'S SCHEDULE. THE THAI EMBASSY HAS JUST ADVISED US THAT THE COURTESY CALL BY IBRD PRESIDENT CLAUSEN HAS BEEN ADVANCED TO 0830 TO 0900. THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD CONSEQUENTLY BE ABLE TO LEAVE IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER FOR THE HILL AND BE BACK COMFORTABLY BEFORE 1030, THE CUTOFF TIME PREVIOUSLY ENVISAGED FOR SENATOR HATFIELD.

4. THE CREDIT REFLECTED ON THAILAND BY SENATOR MURKOWSKI'S INVITATION AUGURS WELL FOR THE OCCASION AND WE STRONGLY ENDORSE IT. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT IN CONVEYING THIS INVITATION TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S PLANNERS AND IN OBTAINING THEIR ACCEPTANCE OF THE INVITATION AND OF THE PROPOSED MEETING WITH SENATOR HATFIELD. SHULTZ
END OF MESSAGE

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State Dept. review completed

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